K. Numb. 15.

THE OBSERVATOR.

Letter to Sir J. B. *concerning the* Minehead *Doctrine. Some Omissions observ'd in it; which serve instead of a Postscript, till the Author has leisure to oblige the Publick with a further Account of that Matter.*

From Saturday, February 17. to Wednesday, February 21. 1711.

HAVE you seen the Letter to Sir *J. B.* concerning the late *Minehead* Doctrine, Master? It has a mighty Vogue, and is generally commended.

I have not only seen, but read it; and it deserves all the Applause it meets with, tho' I can't help saying, that it would have deserv'd more, had there not been some Passages left out that were in the original Copy; but I hope the Publisher will make amends, and give us them in a Postscript.

I am sorry to hear there has been any unfair Dealing, Master. I hope Sir *J.* has not conceal'd them, but that he gave the Letter to be printed, as it came to his hands.

I am afraid Sir *J. B.* has not been us'd like a Gentleman in this matter, that the Letter was intercepted, and that the Intercepter has put in and left out what he pleas'd. For after a moderate refreshment some time ago with some of my friends, I fell into a sort of a Dream like that of *Nebuchadnezzar*, and fancy'd my self to be all of a sudden transported to *Sweden*, and lodg'd among the Records, where I saw the Original of this Letter directed to all Nations, Kindreds, and People upon Earth; for you must understand that the nature of those that the Learned call Circulars, Copies of which were directed to the Bishops in each particular Country, and that which was sent to Sir *J. B.* to be by him communicated to the good People of that Country; and among other things I don't find in the Copy, I read of, the Paragraph: 'That King *John*, tho' a Protestant, design'd to subvert that Church, and in its place to set up the Scheme of Popery; which was to make a new Religion, which was to be a Compound of Popery and Heathenry: And in the Letter to Sir *J. B.* there is a sort of a prophetical Proposal, that would suit this Project to *E*———*d*, *L*—*y*, and *H*—*ks* were to be employ'd to bring the Scheme for uniting the *Anglic*— and Greek Churches under the Western Primacy of Rome, according to the Pattern of the General Council of the *Gallican* Church; That the Session of the *E*———*sh* C-———n should by no means not be adjourn'd or dissolv'd, till the *French* Assembly could adjust it, as they unluckily some time ago; which gave them a fair occasion to complain, *That the Convocation not being suffer'd to sit while the Treaty lasted, any Treaty betwixt 'em was impracticable.* The Case of the Regale is there truly state stated, *p.* 263. *2d Edit.*

I find this Paragraph omitted, *Roger*; that *John* and his pack'd Parliament and Clergy made it Heresy and Treason to break the Canons of that C———on which *Calixtus Calixtus*'s Scheme: yet the Low-Church Clergy were so schismatical and traitorous, that they preach'd and wrote against it, and appeal'd to foreign Churches and Universities against the Canons and Decrees of their own; and complain'd that while they were condemn'd as teaching Schismatical and Antimonarchical Principles, the Jesuits were suffer'd to debauch the Youth of the Nation, and that many of 'em were sent abroad to be bred up Papists in foreign Parts, tho the King was oblig'd to hinder both these Practices by his Coronation-Oath.'

Countrym. These are mighty Omissions, for which the Intercepter of the Letter is highly to be blam'd, Master: If he do not make us amends by a Postscript, as you seem to hope he will, he shall never have my good word again. But pray go on: Do you remember any thing else that's omitted?

Obs. Yes, *Roger*: I find no mention of this remarkable Passage; 'That when several Lords and others had invited the Popish Pretender *Sigismund* to invade their Country in 1600. after the whole Popish Line was excluded by Law, they were not only taken up, but executed by the Advice of Parliament, who would neither hear of Reprieves nor Pardons for 'em. This was mention'd as a Caveat to the Pretender's Friends to beware of new Plots, till they had made all things sure, and had a Majority of the S—es, and C——y, and C———l on their side.

Countrym. That's another remarkable Omission, Master: Is there any more of 'em?

Obs. Yes, *Roger*, I assure you there are some very material ones. '1. When Prince *Charles* had effected a Revolution, and was settled on the Throne, he consented to a Law, *That if any of his Successors turn'd Papists, they should be accountable for it to the States.* This being against the Cant of a Divine Indefeasible and Hereditary Right of Succession, and striking at the very root of Tyranny and Arbitrary Power; the Pretender wrote to his Friends to oppose it, to the Priests of his Faction to preach it down, and declar'd it null and void, as *Lesly* has done our Act of the same nature lately in his *Good Old Cause.*'

'2. *Roger*, I find no mention of the just Retaliation made upon the Highflying Clergy by *Gustavus Erickson* when he came to the Crown. He complain'd, that at every new Election they took care to have their Privileges increas'd, the Princes being oblig'd to comply with their Demands, because of the great Power they had in the Kingdom; so that by degrees they came almost to be Independent, and dethron'd Kings by their Interest: that the other Subjects were not able to pay any suitable Taxes towards clearing the publick Debts, that had been contracted during a long Course of War, while the Clergy were possess'd of most of the Riches of the Kingdom;

the Yearly Surplus of the 135,000 *l. per Ann.* to be apply'd to discharge the Benefits and the first and second Course of Payment; *which is somewhat above* 14 *per Cent.* upon the ——— 115,[illegible] 4 *s.* 19,285 *l.* 16 *s.*

Total Fund *per Ann.* ——— 135,000 *l.*

As the Principal is paid off, the said 115,714 *l.* 4 *s.* computed above for the Interest

Some convenient Time after the ſaid Tickets in the 1500000 *l.* Lottery ſhall be taken out, (and that at leaſt Three Weeks before the Lottery ſhall be begun to be drawn,) publick Notice ſhall be given in the Gazette, or ſome others of the moſt noted and publick Prints, that theſe abovemention'd Receipts ſhall be exchang'd for Tickets. And if any of the ſaid *Adventurers* ſhall neglect to change their Receipts for Tickets, then they ſhall have no Share or Intereſt in any of the Prizes taken out of the ſaid 1500000 *l.* Lottery; but notwithſtanding ſhall be entitled to Seven Shillings and Six Pence, payable in Twelve Months after the Date of their Receipt, by the Signers of their Receipts.

As ſoon as theſe Receipts are exchang'd for Tickets, and the 1500000 *l.* Lottery ſhall be begun to be drawn, all the Tickets that are taken out of the ſaid 1500000 *l.* Lottery ſhall be put into one Box, on which ſhall be Six different Locks, the Keys whereof the Truſtees and the Propoſer ſhall keep, each of them one: In which the Tickets ſhall remain 'till the Lottery be fully drawn and ended; and within three Months after, all the ſaid Tickets, both Fortunate and Blanks, ſhall be expos'd to publick Sale to the higheſt Bidder.

Notice ſhall be given of the Time and Place of this Sale in the Gazette, or ſome others of the moſt noted and publick Prints, at leaſt Ten Days before the ſaid Sale ſhall begin: Which ſhall be in ſome convenient Hall, or ſpacious Place, within the City of *London*; where the *Adventurers* may (if they think fit) be preſent. An Account of the Price each Ticket ſells for, ſhall be carefully taken, to the End that each Adventurer in the ſaid Tickets, may have his juſt Share of the Money.

The Money that ſhall be received for the ſaid Tickets, ſhall be put into the ſaid Box, and lock'd up by the ſaid Truſtees, and in the Preſence of two, or more of them, ſhall be paid out on Demand to each *Adventurer* the Sum he has a Right to.

N. B. Whereas it is by theſe Propoſals ſuppos'd, That the Tickets in the Lottery, will be Ten Pounds each; if they ſhould be rated at a higher Price, then the Proportion of One-Twentieth Part muſt be alter'd, and more according to the Proportion that Ten Shillings bears to the Price and Value ſet upon the Tickets, in the 1500000 *l.* Lottery.

We whoſe Names are hereunto ſubſcribed, accept of the Truſt by theſe Propoſals repoſed in us,

John Fryer, *Alderman.*
John Morton,
William Vere,
} Thomas
} Thomas

The Receipts, as above, will be given out upon the Payment of the Money, by Mr. Edw *at* Bridge's *Coffee-houſe in* Pope's-Head-Alley, Cornhill; *or by* Jonathan Collyer, *at* mas Smyth's *in* Artillery-Lane *without* Biſhopſgate,; *at Madam* Collyer's *in* Cha *near* Hoxton-Square; *Mr.* Ruſſel's *in* Brick-Lane *near* White-Chappel *all Day* Sandal's *Coffee-houſe over-againſt the Cuſtom-houſe*; Wood's *Coffee-houſe in the Herb-Mar* hall; *and* Webb's *Coffee-houſe in* Weſt-Smithfield *from Seven a Clock to Eleven*; *at* houſe *at the* Bridge-Foot; *and* Gibſon's *Coffee-houſe near* Cripplegate *from Eleven* Three; *at* Finch's *Coffee-houſe in the* Minories; Tom's *Coffee-houſe without* Ludgate; ton's *Coffee-houſe* Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, *from Three a Clock to Seaven*; *other Places, of which daily Notice will be given in ſome of the publick News-Papers. And as it is very probable the Books for Subſcription to the* 1500000 l. *Lottery will be open'd but a ſhort Time, all Perſons who intend to adventure according to theſe Propoſals, are deſir'd to bring their Money aſſoon as poſſible.*

N. B. The Receipts will be ſign'd by Mr. *Thomas Smyth*, one of the Truſtees, and by *Jonathan Collyer*, the Propoſer.